

## Article - Business Regulation

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§7-308.

(a) Subject to the hearing provisions of § 7-309 of this subtitle, the Board may reprimand a licensee or suspend or revoke a license if the licensee or any owner, director, officer, member, partner, or agent of the licensee:

- (1) makes any material misstatement in an application for a license;
- (2) is convicted under the laws of the United States or of any state of:
  - (i) a felony; or
  - (ii) a misdemeanor that is directly related to the fitness and qualification of the person to engage in the collection agency business;
- (3) in connection with the collection of any consumer claim:
  - (i) commits any fraud; or
  - (ii) engages in any illegal or dishonest activities;
- (4) knowingly or negligently violates the Maryland Consumer Debt Collection Act; or
- (5) fails to comply with a lawful order that the Board passes under this title.

(b) If the Board finds that a ground for suspension or revocation of a license applies to more than 1 place of business that the licensee operates, the Board may act against:

- (1) each license of the licensee; or
- (2) only the licenses to which the ground applies.

(c) In determining whether to reprimand a licensee or to suspend or revoke a license for a reason described in subsection (a)(2) of this section, the Board shall consider:

- (1) the nature of the crime;

(2) the relationship of the crime to the activities authorized by the license;

(3) with respect to a felony, the relevance of the conviction to the fitness and qualification of the licensee to engage in the collection agency business;

(4) the length of time since the conviction; and

(5) the behavior and activities of the licensee since the conviction.

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